

ISSG Comments on Executive Order 11652

OK if  
any need  
any answer  
Layoff  
Subcommittee

1. A central problem of E. O. 11652 is the lack of a central, authoritative, guidance, interpretive, and enforcement organization. The simple creation of such a focal point with appropriate budget, manpower and authority would not quickly, but over a relatively short period of time eliminate many of the expressed concerns over 11652. This organization would be primarily responsible for the establishment of policy and procedures governing all aspects of government secrecy and disclosure. ILLEGIB

2. Definitional clarification of the current classes of information and consideration of additional classes of information to be covered under a new Executive Order.

E. O. 11652 is intended to limit access to ". . . some official information and material which, . . . bears directly on our national defense and the conduct of foreign relations . . .". Intelligence information as defined by E. O. 11905 (or by a better definition)

should be added as a class of information at the minimum. If possible the new E. O. should allow for the inclusion of information which does not meet a narrow definition of national defense. Consideration should be given to the growing concept that Information is a valuable national asset. As a national asset it should receive appropriate protection from the six basic threats of intentional or accidental disclosure, modification or destruction of this information. Examples of information which could cause national harm if the above threats were carried out are - economic, monetary, energy related, crop, etc.

*Internal  
or offense*

3. It appears that the three existing categories of Top Secret, Secret and Confidential are appropriate. OK

In considering assignment of information to a category consideration of value as well as damage may be appropriate. The determination of possible or probable "damage" is extremely difficult. Value, however, may be easier to determine.

*Difficult to  
justify  
security level of  
control*

The three categories rather than "one" gives a basic cost benefit - a single category

*OK - a good  
argument if the  
single category  
note could help.*

would entail maximum protection requirement for all classified information - vaults, alarms, etc., and maximum security investigation and clearance for all personnel having access to such information.

4. The new E. O. should increase emphasis on need to know.

Support of the concept of compartmentation as a system of established rules governing need to know should be addressed in some detail.

5. The new E. O. should consider the problems of applicability of classification and declassification procedures to information media other than paper such as micrographics, magnetic media, etc. This area will cause major problems in the future. Paper can be remarked, etc., however this is not so for other storage media. At a minimum this problem should be identified.

*good  
long  
problem  
(retrofit  
state of the art)*



STAT